

PROSPECTUS.

On Saturday, the 24th of October, 1795, will be published,

By H. D. SYMONDS, No, 20, Paternoster-Row, London,
And sold by all Booksellers, Stationers, and Newsmen, in England,
Ireland, Scotland, and Wales,

N^o. I. /

(PRICE ONE SHILLING),

Containing 80 Pages of Letter-Press, in Large Octavo, and
to be continued once a Fortnight,

A NEW AND INTERESTING WORK,

TO BE CALLED



The Argus,

OR,

140

GENERAL OBSERVER

OF THE

Moral, Political, and Commercial World.

THIS Publication is calculated to instruct, enlighten, and prepare the mind for comprehending and contemplating the Cause of those Changes, which have happened, and are about to happen, in the several Governments of Europe; with Reflections thereon, peculiarly applied to the prospective advantage of the People of England.

~~~~~  
BY SAMPSON PERRY,

*Editor and Proprietor of the late Newspaper called THE ARGUS.*

---

IN the course of these Numbers will be uninterruptedly given, and brought down to the present period, an HISTORICAL and PHILOSOPHICAL SKETCH of the FRENCH REVOLUTION, with its distinguished accompanying Events, marking especially the Dethronement of LOUIS XVI. and the consequent resolving of the Government into A REPUBLIC. The whole History (each Number giving 48 pages of it distinct) will be interspersed with genuine Anecdotes, known to few persons, concerning many of the great men who have so conspicuously figured in that memorable occurrence.

This

This Publication, over and above the important Article already mentioned (which of itself running through Twenty-four Numbers, will make two handsome Volumes) is to contain a variety of valuable Matter under the head of MISCELLANEOUS, such as the condensed substance of the Speeches in both Houses of Parliament during the Sessions, Treaties of Peace, Declarations of War, State Papers, with every other authentic Document and interesting Record; even to Promotions, Marriages, Deaths, and Bankrupts, the Price of Stocks, Corn, Hay, and Coals, possessing thereby all the requisites of a MAGAZINE or REGISTER of Occurrences.

With respect to Poetry—as these are not the piping days of Peace, no admittance can be given to *Love Sonnets* or *Elegies on the Deaths of Blackbirds and Linnets*, but for those grand Pieces or Compositions which have distinguished of late a few of our Countrymen, under the name of ODES TO LIBERTY, ODES TO TYRANNY, ODES TO MODERATION, &c. These, with other Productions of a like nature, the emanations of a strong masculine poetic genius, will always be received with gratitude, and handed forward with pride to posterity through this Work.

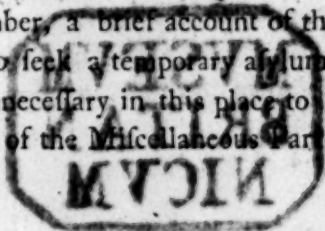
The Editor hopes it will not be thought presumption in him, if he announces this Publication as peculiarly deserving the notice of the POLITICIAN and the LITERATI, from the promise he has had made him of its being adopted as the vehicle of those luminous effusions which assiduous Philosophy is now emitting for the irradiation of the too long darkened mind of man.

With regard to the language in which this Work will be written, the Author, without a pompous declaration on that head, promises to make its *purity* a matter of especial solicitude, no affectation shall appear in it, no foreign idiom disfigure—no pedantry disgust—or puerility attenuate its force—it is intended to be what the Author would prove himself—*English*. And finally, as he hopes one day to see a national Education established for the well-bringing up of the rising generation, he will take care, in order that it may safely and beneficially be put into the hands of our youth, that, like their morals, the diction throughout be preserved *chaste*.

For the renewal of the Author's acquaintance, and communication with his Compatriots, he thinks it not improper to subjoin to the First Number his own Case, with respect to the Prosecution of the Attorney General; in the first instance by an *ex-officio* proceeding, carried up in the last to writ of out-lawry.

## ADVERTISEMENT FROM THE AUTHOR.

ALTHOUGH I am not quite unknown to the PUBLIC, yet as I am about to present myself before it in a new dress, I feel a weight upon me arising from the respect I bear to its opinion. I wish to render that load as little oppressive as possible, by exposing, without reserve, my anxieties and my hopes from this new undertaking. No man without arrogance can anticipate approbation; it is the impartial judgment of the World that must decide the degree of merit due to any literary performance whatever. The fondness of an author for the offspring of his brain, is sometimes seen to draw him into a disgusting confidence, a confidence which has been found to have no small share in his ill success. Of this danger I am fully aware; I am however, not without hopes, even flattering hopes. The part which I had in establishing a literary Work under this name, though of a different nature, justifies my pretensions, more especially as the same reverence for PRINCIPLE and TRUTH which pervaded, which so peculiarly distinguished that Work, is the great motive for my commencing this. In the conduct and prosecution of it, it will be seen whether my Political Principles, by which alone I desire to be known to, or estimated by, my Fellow-Citizens, have been *shaken*, or whether they are not rather confirmed. The Prospectus, or title page, shews the nature and the extent of the object of this enterprize: it is therefore obvious, that seclusion from the world, which would be a considerable impediment to the prosperity of a Newspaper, will, to an attempt of this kind, be found an advantage. As I have thought it necessary to give, in the First Number, a brief account of those proceedings which drove me to seek a temporary asylum in another country, it will be unnecessary in this place to say more than that I have, in aid of the Miscellaneous Part of



the undertaking, great reliance on the renewed favours of my literary correspondents, which I so liberally experienced throughout my former; and of the countenance of my friends in general; since it is neither with shame nor reluctance, that I declare myself beginning the world again, though at this advanced period of my life, with no other stock in trade than pens, ink, and paper. And yet, under such a circumstance, which might plunge many into dejection and despair, with those materials only, I hope to prove, that having been for near three years not an inattentive spectator of the *greatest* REVOLUTION which History has handed down to us, nor an unconcerned observer of its civil and political relation to surrounding States, I am qualified to turn my studies and my experience to my own support, and to the useful instruction of my contemporaries. A new Era is commenced—new men, and new writers, will speedily follow, and he who best seizes the subject which is now warming the cold heart, and inflaming the stoick mind, will best please, will best succeed. If I shall be fortunate enough to adopt a language appropriate to the grandeur of the subject of the succeeding reflections, I shall have no dread of failure in any part of the design. Persecution has had but little sensible ill effect on my body; on my mind, it has served only to stimulate, to invigorate its powers. I am animated at the prospect of the new, the sublime destiny which awaits my fellow-creatures. I wish my talents may be found, in some degree, to keep pace with that animation.

Without any other importunity therefore, than such as may well accord with that deference I shall always bear to public opinion, and to public censure, I enter upon my task with gaiety of heart—with a preface of encouragement.

*London, 1st of October, 1795.*



*Sampson Perry.*